

C1
This application claims the benefit of Belgian Application No. 09700417

filed May 4, 1997, the entire specification of which is incorporated herein by reference.

At page 1 lines 23-29 delete the paragraph and substitute therefor:

C2
The NEUTREC® process [Solvay (Société Anonyme)] is an efficient process for purifying gases. According to this known process, sodium bicarbonate, in the form of a powder, is injected into the gas and the gas thus treated is subsequently conveyed to a filter for removal of the dust therefrom (Solvay S.A., booklet Br. 1566a-B-1-0396).

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 6 and 9 to read as follows:

C3
SUB 01
1. (Twice Amended) Solid pulverulent reactive composition for the purification of a gas, comprising sodium bicarbonate and a caking inhibitor for sodium bicarbonate and being substantially devoid of silica, said inhibitor comprising lignite coke and/or a magnesium compound selected from the group consisting of magnesium oxide, magnesium hydroxide, mixtures of magnesium oxide and magnesium hydroxide and magnesium hydroxycarbonate.

2. (Thrice Amended) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said magnesium compound is magnesium hydroxycarbonate.

C4
SUB 02
6. (Twice Amended) A process for the purification of a gas, comprising introducing a reactive composition in accordance with Claim 1 into the gas and subjecting the gas to removal of dust.

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C5 9. (Twice Amended) The process according to Claim 7, wherein the reactive composition is that of Claim 2.

Please add Claim 10:

C6 10. The process according to Claim 1 wherein said silica is one containing less than 0.48% of silica.--

File 1-76 Please delete the Abstract and substitute the following appearing on the next page.